SENATE BILL 541 By Haun

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 4, relative to special license plates.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-4-201, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subsection:

- ()(1) Effective July 1, 1998, the division of motor vehicles of the department of safety shall establish and issue one (1) standard special license plate of generic design. Such standard special license plate shall replace all other special license plates issued pursuant to this part.
- (2) The division of motor vehicles shall assign unique identifying letters and numbers to the standard special license plates authorized by this section, whereby the total characters do not exceed the sum of seven (7).

(3)

- (A) Such standard special license plates shall bear the word "Tennessee", shall have space to designate the special group or special purpose for which such special plate is being issued, and shall have space for an emblem or design connected with such special group or special purpose.
- (B) Such standard special license plate shall be designed in a manner that will permit adhesive labels to be affixed at a common location on each special plate. Such adhesive labels shall contain the designation and emblem or

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design of the special group or special purpose for which the special plate is being issued.

- (C) Such standard special license plate shall be designed by the division of motor vehicles; however, the design of the accompanying design or emblem to be affixed to such special plate shall remain the responsibility of the special group or special purpose for which such special plate is being issued.
- (4) The funds generated from the sale of the special license plates authorized by this part shall continue to be distributed as provided in the specific statute authorizing such special plates.
- (5) Any and all criteria that an applicant must meet in order to be eligible for a special license plate, as specified in the authorizing statute, shall continue to apply to the issuance of all special license plates.
- (6) All qualifications and provisions for the issuance of free special license plates shall continue to apply.
- (7) The purpose of this subsection is to reduce the administrative costs associated with the issuance of multiple special license plates. In furtherance of this purpose, the division of motor vehicles shall discontinue the issuance and renewal of all special license plates authorized by this part effective July 1, 1998, and shall thereafter issue and renew only the standard special license plates provided for in this subsection. SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

it.